



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

AFYB-CG

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Columbus Day 2005 Safety Message

1. The Division has been working incredibly hard in preparing for our upcoming deployment. I ask each of you to time over the Columbus Day weekend to relax and enjoy quality family time. However, as you relax over the long weekend ensure that you conduct yourself safely. Over the last year, III CORPS has lost 36 Soldiers due to accidents. Of these, our Division has lost 13 Soldiers to POV related accidents. All of these deaths were preventable with planning and the use of common sense. In every one of the fatalities a fellow Soldier could have prevented the accident by speaking up. Soldiers must look out for Soldiers.
2. All Ironhorse Soldiers will be faced with hazards this holiday. Cooler, damper weather, long travel distances, motorcycle operation, water activities, barbequing, and family activities all present varying degrees of hazards. Leaders and Soldiers must know how to address these hazards in order to reduce or eliminate them. In order to assist identifying hazards all personnel will receive the following prior to being released for the holiday weekend:
 - a. End of duty day safety briefing from the unit Commander and 1SG prior to being released for the weekend. This will include POV/Motorcycle safety, boating and water safety, alcohol safety, travel safety, hunting, and other off duty safety issues.
 - b. All Soldiers are required to complete the AS MIS individual risk assessment prior to any travel. This risk assessment is available at <https://crc.army.mil> and may be accessed from any internet connection.
 - c. POV/Motorcycle safety inspection, this inspection will be conducted by the leadership.
 - d. Conduct or re-validate a written risk assessment if you are licensed to operate a motorcycle.
3. I want each of you to enjoy this time; however, I ask that you celebrate safely and with common sense. All personnel in the Ironhorse Division must know that their chain of command cares about their safety, on and off duty. As you plan your activities for the holiday weekend, keep safety in mind and take the appropriate precautions for all of your activities.

Steadfast and Loyal

// original signed //

JAMES D. THURMAN
MG, USA
Commanding

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